## Ravula language

Ravula, known locally as *Yerava* or *Adiyan*, is a <u>Dravidian language</u> of <u>Karnataka</u> and <u>Kerala</u> spoken by the <u>Ravula</u> and <u>Adiyan</u>. Their language exhibits a number of peculiarities which marks it off from Malayalam as well as from other tribal speeches in the <u>Wayanad district</u>.<sup>[3]</sup> It is spoken by 25,000 Ravulas (locally called Yerava) in Kodagu district of Karnataka and by 1,900 Ravulas (locally called Adiyan) in the adjacent <u>Wayanad district</u> of Kerala.<sup>[4]</sup> The term 'Yerava' is derived from the Kannada word *Yeravalu* meaning borrow.<sup>[5][6]</sup>

## **Phonology**

|            | Front | Central | Back |
|------------|-------|---------|------|
| Close      | i     |         | u    |
| Near-close | I     |         | σ    |
| Close-mid  | е     |         | 0    |
| Mid        |       | ә       |      |
| Open-mid   | ε     |         | Э    |
| Open       | а     |         |      |

All vowels except for /I, $\theta$ , $\sigma$ , $\sigma$ , demonstrate contrastive vowel length. [7]

## **Consonants**

| Ravula          |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Yerava, Adiyan  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Native to       | India   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Region          | Kodagu District,<br>Wayanad District                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ethnicity       | 41,000 (2011<br>census)                                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Native speakers | 26,563 (2011<br>census) <sup>[1]</sup>                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Language        | Dravidian   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| family          | <ul><li>Southern</li><li>Tamil–</li><li>Kannada</li></ul> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | <ul><li>Tamil–<br/>Kodagu</li></ul>                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | ■ Tamil–<br>Malayalam                                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | <ul><li>Malayalam</li></ul>                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | <ul><li>Ravula</li></ul>                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Langua          | ge codes  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ISO 639-3       | yea   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Glottolog       | ravu1237 (htt   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | p://glottolog.or  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | g/resource/langu  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | oid/id/ravu1237) <sup>[2</sup>                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|             |           | Bilabial | Dental | Alveolar | Retroflex | Palatal | Velar |
|-------------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|-----------|---------|-------|
| Stop        | voiceless | р        | ţ      |          | t         | С       | k     |
|             | voiced    | b        | ď      |          | d         | ţ       | g     |
| Nasal       |           | m        | й      | n        | η         | 'n      | ŋ     |
| Fricative   |           |          |        | S        |           |         |       |
| Approximant |           |          |        | I        | l         | j       |       |
| Trill       |           |          |        | r        |           |         |       |

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